

CHINA



MAIL.

Established February, 1845.

With which is incorporated The "Hongkong Evening Mail and Shipping List." Published every Evening.

VOL. XXXIII. No. 4250. 號二月二年七十七八千一英

HONGKONG, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1877.

日十三月二十年子丙

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON:—F. ASGAR, 9, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street; GEORGE STREET, 30, Cornhill; GORDON & GOTCH, Ludgate Circus, E. C.; BATES, HENRY & CO., 4, Old Bailey; E. C. SAMUEL DEACON & CO., 150 & 154, Leadenhall Street.
NEW YORK:—ANDREW WIND, 133, Nassau Street.
AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND:—GORDON & GOTCH, Melbourne and Sydney.
SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally:—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.
CHINA:—SCHLOSS, QUECH & CAMPBELL, Amy, WILSON, NICHOLLS & CO., FOOCHOW, HENRY & CO., Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & WALSH, Manila, C. HARRISON & CO., Macao; L. A. DA GRADA.

HABENS.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, \$5,000,000 Dollars.

RESERVE FUND, 200,000 Dollars.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman:—E. R. BENNETT, Esq.

Deputy Chairman:—AD. ANDRE, Esq.

H. CORDES, Esq.

H. HOPFNER, Esq.

A. MOLVER, Esq.

ACT. CHIN. MANAGER.

Hongkong:—THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.

Manager.

Shanghai:—EWAN CAMERON, Esq.

London Bankers.—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED

ON Current Deposit Accounts at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

ON Fixed Deposits:—

For 3 months, 2 per cent. per annum.

8 " 4 per cent. "

12 " 5 per cent. "

Local Bills DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts, granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,

Acting Chin. Manager.

Offices of the Corporation,

No. 1, Queen's Road East.

Hongkong, November 2, 1876.

Notices of Firms

NOTICE.

M. R. FRITH LANCKEN'S Interest and Responsibility in our Firm ceased on the 31st December last.

W. M. PUSTAU & Co.

Hongkong, January 1, 1877.

NOTICE.

M. R. FERDINAND NISSEN has been com-

elled to retire from our Firm in consequence of failing health, and his interest and responsibility ceased on the 31st December last.

MR. NICOLAUS AUGUST SIEBS has been

authorised to sign for us by Procuration.

We have this day reopened a branch of

our Firm at Canton.

SIEMSEN & Co.

Hongkong, January 1, 1877.

NOTICE.

WE have been appointed AGENTS for

the AMERICAN SHIPMASTERS' ASSOCIA-

TION.

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.

Hongkong, February 2, 1877.

NOTICE.

M. R. J. H. CORDES' Interest and Respon-

sibility in our Firm ceased on the 31st December last.

W. M. PUSTAU & Co.

Hongkong, January 1, 1877.

NOTICE.

VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

ON and after the 16th day of November, 1876, and until further notice, the BUSINESS of the above-named DISPENSARY will be carried on by the Under-signed.

WM. CRUCKSHANK,

Manager.

Hongkong, November 1, 1876.

NOTICE.

THE Partnership hitherto existing be-

tween the Under-signed under the

name of MASTERS & HULST has this day

been dissolved by lapse of time, and the

signature of the Firm will henceforth be

used for the Liquidation only.

C. J. MESTERN,

W. HULSE.

Canton, December 31, 1876.

NOTICE.

M. R. EBELI has this day been ad-

mitted a PARTNER in my Firm at

Swatow and Hoihow, which in future will

be carried on under the Name or Style of

"EBELI, EBELI & Co."

EDWARD HERTON.

Swatow, Hoihow, January 1, 1877.

NOTICE.

M. R. EBELI has this day been ad-

mitted a PARTNER in my Firm at

Swatow and Hoihow, which in future will

be carried on under the Name or Style of

"EBELI, EBELI & Co."

EDWARD HERTON.

Swatow, Hoihow, January 1, 1877.

NOTICE.

M. R. EBELI has this day been ad-

mitted a PARTNER in my Firm at

Swatow and Hoihow, which in future will

be carried on under the Name or Style of

"EBELI, EBELI & Co."

EDWARD HERTON.

Swatow, Hoihow, January 1, 1877.

NOTICE.

M. R. EBELI has this day been ad-

mitted a PARTNER in my Firm at

Swatow and Hoihow, which in future will

be carried on under the Name or Style of

"EBELI, EBELI & Co."

EDWARD HERTON.

Swatow, Hoihow, January 1, 1877.

NOTICE.

M. R. EBELI has this day been ad-

mitted a PARTNER in my Firm at

Swatow and Hoihow, which in future will

be carried on under the Name or Style of

"EBELI, EBELI & Co."

EDWARD HERTON.

Swatow, Hoihow, January 1, 1877.

NOTICE.

M. R. EBELI has this day been ad-

mitted a PARTNER in my Firm at

Swatow and Hoihow, which in future will

be carried on under the Name or Style of

"EBELI, EBELI & Co."

EDWARD HERTON.

Swatow, Hoihow, January 1, 1877.

NOTICE.

M. R. EBELI has this day been ad-

mitted a PARTNER in my Firm at

Swatow and Hoihow, which in future will

be carried on under the Name or Style of

"EBELI, EBELI & Co."

EDWARD HERTON.

Swatow, Hoihow, January 1, 1877.

NOTICE.

M. R. EBELI has this day been ad-

mitted a PARTNER in my Firm at

Swatow and Hoihow, which in future will

be carried on under the Name or Style of

"EBELI, EBELI & Co."

EDWARD HERTON.

Swatow, Hoihow, January 1, 1877.

NOTICE.

M. R. EBELI has this day been ad-

mitted a PARTNER in my Firm at

Swatow and Hoihow, which in future will

be carried on under the Name or Style of

"EBELI, EBELI & Co."

EDWARD HERTON.

Swatow, Hoihow, January 1, 1877.

NOTICE.

M. R. EBELI has this day been ad-

mitted a PARTNER in my Firm at

Swatow and Hoihow, which in future will

be carried on under the Name or Style of

"EBELI, EBELI & Co."

EDWARD HERTON.

Swatow, Hoihow, January 1, 1877.

NOTICE.

M. R. EBELI has this day been ad-

mitted a PARTNER in my Firm at

Swatow and Hoihow, which in future will

be carried on under the Name or Style of

"EBELI, EBELI & Co."

EDWARD HERTON.

Swatow, Hoihow, January 1, 1877.

NOTICE.

INTIMATIONS.

HONGKONG.

Chs. J. GAUPP & Co.
WATCOMAKERS & JEWELLERS,
38, Queen's Road,
NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS,
CHRONOMETERS,
etc., &c., &c.,
Carefully Repaired, Cleaned and accurately
rated under guarantee.

All Repairs in the above line done at
reasonable rates and with despatch.
Hongkong, May 1, 1876.

W. BALL,
CHINA DISPENSARY.

IMPORTER OF DRUGS, CHEMICALS,
DRUGGISTS' SUPPLIES, TOILET
REQUISITES, PATENT MED-
ICINES AND PARFUMES.

Prescriptions Dispensed with Carefulness,
and Prompt Attention.

PRAYA WEST, HONGKONG,
Near the Canton Steamer's Wharf,
Hongkong, July 18, 1876.

NOTIFICATION.

A COPY of the Jury List for 1877 is
posted at the Supreme Court House
for inspection; Notice of any Inaccuracies,
Omissions, Objections, &c., must be given
to the Acting Registrar on or before TUES-
DAY, the Thirteenth day of February, 1877,
in accordance with the provisions of Section
8 of Ordinance No. 11 of 1864.

F. S. HUFFAM,
Acting Registrar.
Hongkong, January 29, 1877.

fe14

To-day's Advertisements.
HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK
COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

CONTRIBUTING SHAREHOLDERS
are requested to send in an Account
of Business Contributed during the Half
Year ended 31st December, 1876, on or
before the 28th Instant, on which Date the
Accounts will be Closed.

By Order of the Directors,
D. GILLIES,
Secretary.
Hongkong, February 12, 1877.

NOTICE.

TENDERS FOR REPAIRS of the British
Ship **SARAH NICHOLSON**, will
be Received on Board till 8 a.m., THURS-
DAY, 16th instant.

Separate Tenders are requested for
1—Masts, Spars, Iron Work and Repairs
to Hull.

For Particulars of the Work apply to the
Master on Board, who does not bind him-
self to accept the lowest or any Tender.

MELCHERS & Co.,

Hongkong, February 12, 1877.

f15

FURNITURE SALE.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. has re-
ceived instructions to sell by
Public Auction, on

MONDAY,

the 19th February, 1877, at 2 o'clock
p.m., at No. 12, Seymour Terrace, the
Residence of C. B. GRIFFITH, Esq.

The whole of his **HOUSEHOLD**
FURNITURE, comprising: Covered
Chairs, Couches, Centre and other Tables,
Mirrors, Clocks, Electro-plated Ware,
Glass and Crockery Ware, Sideboards,
Whitewash, Bedsteads, Wardrobes, Dressing
Tables, Toilet Glasses, &c., &c.

Also,

1 Cottage PIANO, by Zeitzer & Co.
1 HARMONIUM, by Alexandre
Pere et Fils, Paris.

Sedan Chair, Flower Pots,
&c., &c.

Catalogues will be issued.

TERMS OF SALE.—Cash before delivery.
in Mexican Dollars weighed at 7.17.
All lots, with all faults and errors of
description, at purchasers' risk on the fall
of the hammer.

Hongkong, February 12, 1877.

fe19

Not Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor
Owners will be Responsible for any
Debt contracted by the Officers or Crews
of the following Vessels, during their stay
in Hongkong Harbour:—

BRITISH.—British barque, Captain
E. W. Crisp.—Arnold, Karberg & Co.
CEYLON.—American bark, Capt. E. Kelly.
SHIP OF CHINA, British ship, Captain M.
B. Blaker.—Dugdale Lapraik & Co.
NEHEMIAH GIBSON, American barque,
Captain D. Bradford.—Arnold, Karberg
& Co.

BONIFACIO, German barque, Captain J. F.
Wiesenberg.—Siemens & Co.

ALICE BESSIE, American barque, Captain
G. Noyes.—Kearny & Co.

TYBURN, British ship, Captain Robt.
Golden.—Moyer & Co.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Feb. 10, **Danube**, British steamer, 861,
A. Clancy, Bangkok Feb. 2, General.

Feb. 10, **Bonita**, German 8-m. schooner,
from Whampoa.

Feb. 10, **Albion**, British barque, from
Whampoa.

Feb. 11, **Lydia**, British barque, 806,
Youngson, Nagasaki Jan. 31, General.

BUTTERFIELD & SWINE.

Feb. 11, **Norma**, British steamer, 606,
A. G. Walker, Swatow Feb. 10, General.

KWOK ACEHONG.

Feb. 11, **China**, German steamer, from
Canton.

Feb. 12, 8 a.m., **Glensay**, Brit. steamer,
1870, A. H. Taylor, Shanghai Feb. 8,

Macau 10, and Amoy 11, Tea.—JARIBINE,

MARRISON & Co.

Feb. 12, **Lombardy**, British steamer,
1736 W. B. Ball, Shanghai Feb. 8, Mails

and General—1, & O. S. N. G.

ARRIVALS.

Feb. 12, **Albion**, French man-of-war,
M. St. Malo, Tonquin Feb. 9.

Feb. 12, **Pat Tah**, Chinese steamer, from
Canton.

Feb. 12, **William Turner**, British barque,
631, Vandervord, Nagasaki Feb. 8, Coal

and General—CHINESE.

Feb. 12, **Nemo**, British steamer, 862,
G. Westoby, Bangkok Feb. 4, Rice.—

Douglas Lapeyre & Co.

Feb. 12, **Western Belle**, American barque,
1136, H. Fish, Cardiff Sept. 20, Coal—

ORDER.

DEPARTURES.

Feb. 10, **Menalak**, for Yokohama.

10, **Tigre**, for Shanghai.

10, **Cyphene**, for Shanghai.

10, **Achilles**, for Singapore & London.

10, **Leonor**, for Amoy, &c.

10, **Ceylon**, for New York.

10, **Nuevo Constante**, for Manila.

10, **Deutschland**, for Tientsin.

12, **Christian**, for Tientsin.

12, **Argyll**, undelivered after this

date subject to rent.

Goods per **Argyll** undelivered after this

date subject to rent.

Goods per **Tigre** undelivered after Noon,

subject to rent and landing charges.

12, **Menalak**, for Yokohama.

10, **Tigre**, for Shanghai.

10, **Cyphene**, for Shanghai.

10, **Achilles**, for Singapore & London.

10, **Leonor**, for Amoy, &c.

10, **Ceylon**, for New York.

10, **Nuevo Constante**, for Manila.

10, **Deutschland**, for Tientsin.

12, **Christian**, for Tientsin.

12, **Argyll**, undelivered after this

date subject to rent.

Goods per **Argyll** undelivered after this

date subject to rent.

Goods per **Tigre** undelivered after Noon,

subject to rent and landing charges.

12, **Menalak**, for Yokohama.

10, **Tigre**, for Shanghai.

10, **Cyphene**, for Shanghai.

10, **Achilles**, for Singapore & London.

10, **Leonor**, for Amoy, &c.

10, **Ceylon**, for New York.

10, **Nuevo Constante**, for Manila.

10, **Deutschland**, for Tientsin.

12, **Christian**, for Tientsin.

12, **Argyll**, undelivered after this

date subject to rent.

Goods per **Argyll** undelivered after this

date subject to rent.

Goods per **Tigre** undelivered after Noon,

subject to rent and landing charges.

12, **Menalak**, for Yokohama.

10, **Tigre**, for Shanghai.

10, **Cyphene**, for Shanghai.

10, **Achilles**, for Singapore & London.

10, **Leonor**, for Amoy, &c.

10, **Ceylon**, for New York.

10, **Nuevo Constante**, for Manila.

10, **Deutschland**, for Tientsin.

12, **Christian**, for Tientsin.

12, **Argyll**, undelivered after this

date subject to rent.

Goods per **Argyll** undelivered after this

date subject to rent.

Goods per **Tigre** undelivered after Noon,

subject to rent and landing charges.

12, **Menalak**, for Yokohama.

10, **Tigre**, for Shanghai.

10, **Cyphene**, for Shanghai.

10, **Achilles**, for Singapore & London.

10, **Leonor**, for Amoy, &c.

10, **Ceylon**, for New York.

10, **Nuevo Constante**, for Manila.

10, **Deutschland**, for Tientsin.

12, **Christian**, for Tientsin.

12, **Argyll**, undelivered after this

date subject to rent.

Goods per **Argyll** undelivered after this

date subject to rent.

Goods per **Tigre** undelivered after Noon,

subject to rent and landing charges.

12, **Menalak**, for Yokohama.

10, **Tigre**, for Shanghai.

10, **Cyphene**, for Shanghai.

10, **Achilles**, for Singapore & London.

10, **Leonor**, for Amoy, &c.

10, **Ceylon**, for New York.

Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, previous to the last Annual Meeting.

Reuter's Telegrams.—Messrs Reuter & Co.'s Agent having made proposals for supplying an amended service of Political and Commercial Telegrams, a Sub-Committee was appointed to make satisfactory arrangements with that gentleman. The result of their negotiations is, that the Chamber has taken the local monopoly of the Political Telegrams, and that this branch of the service bids fair to be efficiently started in a few days. The Sub-Committee also drew up an amended form of Commercial Telegrams, which, after being approved by the General Committee was accepted by Reuter's Agent, and will be acted upon as soon as it reaches London. The Committee entertain hopes that the cause will no longer arise for complaint as to the accuracy or extent of the information transmitted.

Members.—During the past year, the following Members have retired from the Chamber:—Messrs Heard & Co., Messrs Margesson & Co., and A. E. Vaucher, Esq., Mr. T. G. Linstead has been duly elected a Member.

Committee.—Mr. P. Karberg, having left for Europe, Mr. L. Mendel was elected to fill his vacancy. According to the Rules, a fresh election of Members of Committee has to take place at this meeting.

Library.—[The additions which have been made to the Library during the past year are here given.]

Funds.—The Secretary's Account Current for the year ending 31st December, 1876, has been audited by Messrs Kerr & Hassell, and is annexed hereto. A falling off of subscriptions will take place from the resignation above reported, but the circulants show an increase of circulation over last year of some \$478. A credit balance of \$253.38 is brought forward for the current year. The sum of \$600 has been withdrawn from the fixed deposits of \$499.71, to pay for the expenses of the Secretary's visit to Hainan, the publication of his Report, and a refund in connection with the Anti-blockade pamphlet. The balance of \$5,899.71 remains on deposit, bearing interest at 5 per cent per annum.

P. RYKES, Chairman.

The Chairman:—Before proposing the adoption of the yearly report of the Committee, and the passing of the accounts attached to it, I beg to be allowed to make a few remarks, upon the leading subjects dealt with. The most prominent one, and I regret to say it has been so for some time past, is the Bi-oxide. In spite of all that has been said and written against these most unprecedented and unjustifiable proceedings of the Canton Customs officers in our waters and outside our waters, their depredations—for I can call them nothing else—continue unchecked. However, I think we may now entertain the hope that the question will not continue much longer to be bandied about from one department to the other, and that a settlement will be arrived at ere long. The parliamentary papers lately published, a copy of which I have before me, strengthen very materially the hands of the people of this Colony, in their opposition to this system of robbery which has been allowed to go on for some years now. In these papers, it will be found that the Hoppo of Canton and his employés, at the stations and on board the cruisers, stand convicted by the written testimony of their own apologist, H. B. M. Consul at Canton, of levying excessive taxation, double duties, in fact, upon the junk trade of the Colony. It appears that on all Goods coming to this Colony from any part of China, he levies an export duty according to the native tariff, also an export duty according to the foreign tariff; and on all Goods sent from this Colony, he levies a double import duty in like manner. The design in which this avowal is made is certainly "peculiar," and I recommend it and the others from the same pen, to the careful perusal of members. It is most curious to notice how the writer twists and turns about in his endeavours to place the actions of the Mandarins in the most favorable light. In one paragraph of a dispatch he makes them out to be models of official rectitude and discipline, going as far as to say that "they are as much under control as the officers of any Government," while in another paragraph he talks of irresponsible provincial officers and their subordinates. Now surely these two statements are contradictory; if government officers are irresponsible, they can't be much under control. And you will see further in the proclamation of the Viceroy, dated 15th May, 1876—which the Consul takes credit to himself on getting issued—that the employés of the Customs have entirely ignored a former Viceroy's proclamation. This certainly does not look as if they were as much under control as the officers of any government. I should like to see what would take place, were any officers of any department in this Colony to ignore a Government notification. However, to return to the question of the imposition of double duties, when these stations commenced to collect duties on general merchandise, (previously they collected duty on opium only) and I had the assurance of Her Majesty's Consul at that time that they were intended solely to collect duties on this commodity and that there was no intention to levy duties on general merchandise, however, this subsequently proved not to be the case. Well, when they commenced to levy duties generally, the persons who defended the Chinese officials in this proceeding said, they are only collecting the dues according to Chinese tariff and such as they have been collecting at other places for many centuries, and any trader who honestly pays these dues need have nothing to fear. The Chinese Government have no intention of gaining by these stations, they are only there to prevent them from losing what they were entitled to by ancient law and usage. But knowing as we do the rapacity of the Chinese officials, grave doubts arose in the minds of many of us as to the correctness of these statements. Immediately or very soon after the system commenced, complaints of squeezing and seizures began to come in, and these continuing to increase, a commission was appointed. Before this commission a number of facts were elicited, which clearly showed that respectable traders were being mulcted and robbed. These facts were stated in the report, but as the evidence in proof of them could not for obvious reasons be published, doubt was thrown, by some sceptical persons, upon the report, and several members used to rise periodically in this room and say, "where are your proofs? Eat blish your facts," &c. No such remarks can be made now, as the Consul's despatch acknowledges imposition of double duties; and it is proved by the able paper from the pen of our respected

Police Magistrate, then acting as Registrar General, that in some instances nearly triple duties have been demanded.

The line of argument by which the Mandarin mind arrived at the plan of imposing the double duties at the stations outside this harbour, is instructive. You are all probably aware that a Chinese official will never, except under the severest pressure, admit that Hongkong has ceased to be a portion of the Empire of China, and by some pleasant fiction no doubt makes it appear to the mass of the Chinese people that the presence here of a British Governor, a British garrison, law courts, police, &c., is permitted as an act of grace, merely for a time, by the all-powerful sovereign of China. The cunning Hoppo saw in this position of matters a splendid opportunity for filling his pockets, and he said, "I shall perpetuate this state of uncertainty as to whom the Island of Hongkong belongs, so I shall levy two duties, one as if it was a part of China and another as if it was a Foreign port." Now this is a very pleasant view of the situation for the Hoppo, but one which I am very glad to say does not satisfy Lord Carnarvon, and I don't think any of us will approve of the dual status which this unscrupulous individual has assigned to the Colony. As far as regards exports from the various parts of the province of Canton to Hongkong, he may have some little show of reason on his side for charging rather more than Nee-ti-shui for the same, as I believe it was the custom in old times to charge some little extra duty on goods which were exported to places outside of China, such as Annam, Singapore, &c.; but this extra duty was something small, perhaps a third or quarter of Nee-ti-shui. But here the rapacity of the Mandarin shows itself, and he imposes the foreign tariff export duty, this being nearly double the amount of the Nee-ti-shui. In the case of Exports from the Colony to places in the Canton province he has not a shadow of reason or right on his side, as for instance a cargo of Indian cotton, Straits produce, Ma-chester goods, he cannot by any reasoning however subtle sustain his right to charge two import duties. If it is finally decided by the high authorities that the Treaty of Tientsin applies to the trade in native craft from this colony, then he could charge the foreign tariff and more; but if the Foreign tariff is not applicable, he can only charge the native duties, so that whatever conclusion is arrived at he stands convicted of an unwarrantable squeezing. Let us hope, gentlemen, that the Commission—agreed in Sir Thos. Wade's Convention—may soon commence their labours, and that the end of these labours may be that the colony may be freed from the many evils which the present system entails upon us. With reference to the remarks in the report on the subject of H. M. Consul acting as a member of this Commission, let us hope that he will view them in their proper spirit. For his high personal character, his genial generous spirit in private life, we have all the greatest admiration; but I contend that no man can read his despatches without feeling convinced that there is a bias towards the Chinese view of the situation. Some of the ablest and best men both in past and present times have been biased on some point or other, and very often there is no way of accounting for a bias. Before concluding these remarks on the blockade, I would call the attention of members to the very able manner in which His Excellency, the Governor, has been battling for the Colony in this matter. Our second Police Magistrate also deserves the thanks of the community; he has been most untiring in his labours to bring to light the objectionable practices of the Hoppo's employés in and around this harbour. The Chief Justice, the acting Attorney-General, the Registrar-General, and the gentleman who is now acting, Mr. Tennyson, have on every occasion done all in their power to protect the interests of the Colony, and to them all much credit is due.

Mr. Bellios: I think it is advisable for this Chamber to protest against Sir Brooke Robertson having anything to do with the Commission.

Mr. Ryrie: We have done so.

Mr. Bellios: I mean as a body; because to all intents and purposes it seems to me this Commission is simply a committee of arbitration—a sort of tribunal to decide between two parties, ourselves, as merchants of this Colony, and the Chinese Customs. We are asked to send a delegate in the shape of an official from this Government, and the Chinese Government is to send another, and Her Majesty's Consul is supposed to be the umpire. Now I am sure that none of us here would take a case before any committee of arbitration if we knew at the outset that there was a majority in it against us (hear, hear). With all deference to Sir Brooke Robertson—no doubt all that he has done and written has been in good faith, but it is human nature to err—it has become clear that the view of the question is not free from prejudice, and therefore I would urge that a person of independent and unbiased mind should preside at this Commission (hear, hear). It might be said against a new-comer that he was not conversant with the subject. Well, I contend that matters of much more importance, and involving many details are heard, and decided in courts of justice, and, therefore, any new man coming to preside in a case of this kind might be allowed to study the matter. I contend it would be better to have a new man to preside at this arbitration committee than Sir Brooke Robertson, who has shown that he is biased in favour of the Chinese authorities. We must not allow this matter to drop. The general motion was unanimously carried.

Mr. Sharp: Would it not be better to add a reason—say, that his appointment will not carry confidence in the foreign and native community. I know that the feeling of the native community is greatly with us, and that they think Sir Brooke is one of the greatest enemies of the Colony.

Mr. Nelson: I second the motion with pleasure. We have the minutes of the meeting which will explain the reason for passing the resolution. A copy of them might be sent with the protest.

Ultimately the motion was unanimously carried in the following form: "That this Chamber do protest against Sir Brooke Robertson being appointed as a member of the Blockade Commission under the Chefoo Convention, and that a copy of the minutes embodying this protest, together with the Annual Report of the Chamber for 1876, be forwarded to H. E. the Governor."

Mr. Welsh: Can you protest against a thing that has not been done?

The Chairman: We know there is the intention to appoint him, if it has not been done.

The ballot for the election of a new Committee was then proceeded with, and resulted in the following nominations:

The Hon. P. Ryrie, the Hon. W. Keeswick, Messrs. Nelson, Kahn, Bellios, Dalrymple, Hopkins, Mendel and Jackson.

The Chairman proposed the nomination of the Hon. W. Keeswick and Mr. Kahn, as the Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively.

Mr. Kahn thanked the members for electing him as Vice-Chairman, but begged to decline the honour.

The Hon. P. Ryrie regretted that Mr. Kahn did not accept the Vice-Chairmanship, but from what he knew of him, he had been a very useful member since he joined the Chamber. Mr. Ryrie then proposed Mr. Nelson as the Vice-Chairman.

was sure that Sir Brooks would not consent to occupy the position.

Mr. Welsh: Are we in order? I do not think the adoption of the report has been moved, or that the Chairman has finished his remarks respecting it.

The Chairman: I have a few more observations to make upon the report with regard to the opening of Holkow. I may remark that we had a very interesting and valuable report on the place from our Secretary, Dr. Dennis. The misfortune is that it was opened so late last season that there have not been many opportunities as yet to prove its capabilities; but I think I can safely say, after this report, that we may look for some improvement there in the trade for the coming year.

As to the opening of Pekoe, that certainly was a concession to the wishes of a number of people in this Colony, but I do not think we can say much about it yet, until something is known of the place. In regard to the Telegraph Tariff, I regret to say that our efforts have not resulted in any actual reduction of charges. The letters that have passed in regard to this subject are interesting, and I have no doubt you have read them.

As to the Establishment of a Chinese Government Mint, there is a very full account of the transactions of the Chamber in regard to the matter, and I do not think

we have been seconded by Mr. Mendel was unanimously carried.

Mr. Welsh: Are we in order? I do not think the adoption of the report has been moved, or that the Chairman has finished his remarks respecting it.

The Hon. P. Ryrie said he was very much obliged to the meeting for what they had said. He took great interest in the Chamber, though he was much occupied by his other work. He would continue to shew the same interest.

The meeting then separated.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The following is the twenty-third Report of the Court of Directors to the ordinary yearly general meeting of Shareholders to be held at the City Hall, Hongkong, on Thursday, the 15th February.

To the Proprietors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Gentlemen.—The Directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the Bank, and balance sheet for the half-year ending 30th December last.

* Net profits for that period, including \$39,085.48 brought forward from last account, after paying all charges, deducting interest paid and due, making provision for bad and doubtful accounts, and for difference in Exchange between the rate at which the Dividend is declared and the current rate of the day, amount to \$502,602.72, of which, after taking out Rebate on Bills not yet due, and remuneration to Dr. Ryrie, there remains for appropriation \$488,824.91.

From this sum, the Directors recommend the payment of a Dividend of One Pound Sterling per share, which will absorb \$177,777.78.

The Directors recommend placing \$300,000 to credit of Reserve Fund, which will then stand at half a million Dollars, and carrying forward the balance, viz., \$11,047.13, to credit of new Profit and Loss Account.

The Directors have to renew their congratulations on the prosperous condition of the Bank.

Directors.—Mr. J. F. Cordes resigned his seat at the Board on leaving the Colony, and Mr. Edward Tobin has been appointed in his stead; the Honorable William Kewell has also joined the Board.

In conformity with the provisions of the Deed of Settlement, two members of the Court, Messrs. H. H. Hoppus and F. D. Sackson, retire from the Direction, but they are eligible for re-election, and offer themselves accordingly.

Mr. Heilrich Hoppus has been appointed Chairman of the Corporation for 1877, vice Mr. E. R. Bellios, whose term of Office now expires, and Mr. Frederick David Sackson has been elected Deputy Chairman.

Auditors.—The Accounts have been audited by the Honourable Phineas Ryrie and Mr. H. B. Gibb, and the Directors have pleasure in recommending the election of these gentlemen as Auditors for the year 1877.

Chief Management.—Mr. James Greig has resigned the post of Chief Manager, and Mr. Thomas Jackson, who has been acting as Chief Manager during the year, has been appointed to that post.

E. R. BELLIOS, Chairman

Hongkong, 10th February, 1877.

Yours respectfully,

(C. R. C.)

Mr. Alfred A. Krause requests us to acknowledge the receipt from the head office of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, on behalf of the sufferers from famine in the North, and to state that the money will be forwarded as requested to Rev. W. N. Hall, Tientsin, and Rev. P. McCoy, Peking.

There is a report that a well-known Chinese banker, in Shanghai, is attempting to negotiate a loan of five million taels with one of the foreign banks, the object in view being the defrayment of expenses incident to the campaign in Kansu and the outlying provinces. Money is urgently required; and this bears out the rumour which reached us a short time ago from Peking, that extensive operations are being contemplated as soon as the frost breaks up.

The officers being armed and remaining firm to their duty, he was unable to carry his threat into execution. As Lyell's conduct and language was disorderly, and at variance with his position of hired stevedore for discharging cargo under the Captain's authority, and as he was throwing obstacles in the way, and was preventing the salvaging of the cotton by any of his own coolies, and was thus delaying the salvaging, Captain More applied to the commander of H. M. S. Mosquito to protect the other coolies from violence, and to remove Lyell from the ship, as he was a hindrance to the cargo being preserved.

A characteristic incident, illustrative of Oriental value, reaches us from Canton. A week or two ago, some three hundred troops were being drilled on the parade ground; at the same time, a party of young officers, Frenchmen and others, were strolling along the city walls, when one of them as a freak, discharged a fowling-piece in the direction of the squad. The parties were of course much too far apart for any of the soldiers to be hit; ever had the gun contained heavy shot, but the result was none the less appalling. The ranks were immediately demoralised, and two dowers of China's army, in the very centre of the company, fled precipitately out of their places and hid themselves cowering behind a wall!

Four years ago, a little Chinese lad of twelve was sent home to America to learn English and receive a useful foreign education. Last week, he wrote a letter to his brother in Shanghai which, as it may interest some of our readers, we now publish. The young gentleman has learned to look down upon the literary development of his own country, and deplores the restricted views of his father in a most ingenuous style. He writes as follows:—

"Greenfield, Dec. 17th, 1876.

"Dear Brother.—As I left home at so early an age it is impossible for me to write to you in my own tongue, but a few days ago I thought I could communicate with you in English. I live in Greenfield town, Franklin county, State of Massachusetts, with four other Chinese Government boys, two of them have gone.

"I am the only two left in this town. We board at A. G. Loomis', who taught me English when I first came to this country. We entered the Grammar school Nov. 1876, and succeeded in getting into the high school in April. I intend to go through a classical education, and in the course of three years I will be ready for college. My studies are Algebra, Latin, and Geometry. I am very desirous to have my brother and the young members of your father's family learn English, for since I came to this country I have found many things in the English literature which are necessary for the elevation of our country and of a man. So will you please direct about this business and when I come back I will try to assist in giving them a good English education. I have said something about it to my father in the letter enclosed, but I am afraid he does not understand it or realize its importance. Please speak to him on this subject, and I hope I will hear from you either in Chinese or English soon.

Yours respectfully,

CHEAK-YAN-CHE.

"P. S.—Please forward the letter enclosed to my father."

It is to the influence of such lads, when grown up, that Li Hung-chang looks for the future progress of China, and who, he considers, will be instrumental in fighting the intrusive foreigners, with their own weapons. The chances appear now rather in favour of the Chinese.

—

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

Report for presentation to the Shareholders at the Eighth Ordinary Meeting, to be held at the Company's Offices, at 2 o'clock p.m., on Friday, the 16th February.

The Directors have now the pleasure to submit a statement of the Company's Accounts made up to the 31st December, 1876.

The Net Profit for the year 1875 is shown to be \$67,709.27

Of this amount the Directors propose to apply \$22,394.77 to the payment of a Bonus of 20 per cent. to the Contributing Shareholders of 1875, and add the balance to the Reserve Fund, which will thus be increased to \$333,787.30.

The Working Account for 1876 shows the satisfactory balance of \$144,804.86 at its credit on the 31st December; but in comparing this with former results the fact must be borne in mind that Interest to Shareholders, hitherto paid half-yearly, was last year discontinued and in the present statement does not appear. In lieu of interest the Directors now propose to appropriate the sum of \$48,000 out of anticipated profits to the payment of a Dividend of \$12 per share, which it is hoped will meet with the approval of the Shareholders.

The losses under Policies issued in 1876 were exceptionally insignificant up to the close of the year, but on the 13th January last, a fire occurred at Yokohama destroying property on which the Company's risks aggregated nearly \$46,000, involving almost total loss.

Directors.—Messrs. Hester and Ryrie retire from the Board in accordance with Article 86 of the Deed of Association, and both gentlemen offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors.—Mr. Edward George, having resigned his appointment, the Directors elected Mr. Robert Lyall to succeed him. This gentleman and Mr. O. Morland Kerr offer themselves for reelection.

HENRY LOWDOWS, Chairman.

—

CHINA.

(News.)

The crew of the wrecked barque *Annis Gray* arrived here yesterday (Feb. 6th), from Chefoo, by the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company's steamer *Yehsi*. It seems that the barque struck on what is known as Double Island, and has since been a total wreck.

We mentioned some time ago that the stern-wheel steamer *Packard*

INSURANCES.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

AGENCIES at all the Treaty Ports of China and Japan, and at Singapore, Saigon and Penang.

Risks accepted, and Policies of Insurance granted at the rates of Premium current at the above mentioned Ports.

NO CHARGE FOR FOLLOW FEES.

JAS. B. COUGTRIE,
Secretary.

Hongkong, November 1, 1871.

LANCASHIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

(FIRE AND LIFE)

CAPITAL—TWO MILLION STEERLING.

THE Undersigned are prepared to grant Policies against the Risk of FIRE on Buildings or on Goods stored therein, on Coals in Mastshead, on Goods on board Vessels and on Hulls of Vessels in Harbour, at the usual Terms and Conditions.

Proposals for Life Assurances will be received, and transmitted to the Directors for their decision.

If required, protection will be granted on first-class Lives up to £1000 on a Single Life.

For Rates of Premiums, forms of proposals or any other information, apply to

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & CO.

Agents: Hongkong & Canton.

Hongkong, January 4, 1867.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Insurances at current rates.

MELCHERS & CO.,

Agents, Royal Insurance Company.

CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED.)

NOTICE.

POLICIES granted at current rates on Maxine Risk to all parts of the World. In accordance with the Company's Articles of Association, Two Thirds of the Profits are distributed annually to Contributors, whether Shareholders or not, in proportion to the net amount of Premiums contributed by each, the remaining third being carried to Reserve Fund.

OLYPHANT & CO.,

General Agents.

Hongkong, April 17, 1873.

QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned are prepared to grant Policies against FIRE to the extent of \$45,000 on Buildings, or on Goods stored therein, at current local rates, subject to a Discount of 20% on the Premium.

NORTON & CO.,

Agents.

Hongkong, January 1, 1874.

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Incorporated by Royal Charter and Special Acts of Parliament.

ESTABLISHED 1809.

CAPITAL £2,000,000.

THE Undersigned, Agents at Hongkong, for the above Company, are prepared to grant Policies against FIRE, to the extent of £10,000 on any Building, or on Merchandise in the same, at the usual Rates, subject to a discount of 20 per cent.

GILMAN & CO.,

Agents.

Hongkong, July 6, 1875.

THE LONDON ASSURANCE.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER OF

His Majesty King George The First, A. D. 1720.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Corporation are prepared to grant Insurances as follows:—

Marine Department.

Policies at current rates payable either here, in London, or at the principal Ports of India, China and Australia.

Fire Department.

Policies issued for long or short periods at current rates. A discount of 20% allowed.

Life Department.

Policies issued for sums not exceeding £5,000 on reasonable terms.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO.

Hongkong, July 25, 1872.

MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned Agents are in receipt of Instructions from the Board of Directors authorizing them to issue Policies to the extent of \$10,000 on any one first class risk, or to the extent of \$15,000 on adjoining risks at current rates.

A discount of 20% allowed.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO.

Hongkong, January 8, 1875.

MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF MANCHESTER AND LONDON.

THE Undersigned have been appointed Agents for the above Company at Hongkong, Canton, Foochow, Shanghai and Hankow, and are prepared to grant Insurances at current rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO.

Hongkong, October 14, 1868.

MAIL.



FOR SALE.

NOW READY.

THE CHINESE MAIL, or, THE RUMINATIONS OF NATURAL HISTORY IN CHINA. By Dr. E. J. EVELL. One Volume, 8vo. Price, \$1.50.

BUDDHISM, ITS HISTORY, THEORY AND PRACTICAL RELIGION, in three Lectures. By Dr. E. J. EVELL. Second Edition, One Volume, 8vo. Price, \$1.50.

Orders will be received by Messrs Lane, Crawford & Co.

Hongkong, July 31, 1872.

SAYLE & CO.

GREAT CLEARANCE SALE.

IN Order to make Room for SPRING GOODS.

On and after MONDAY, February 6th, We shall offer the Remainder of Our

WINTER STOCK at an immense re-

duction.

DRESS GOODS at 15 cents per yard.

DRESS GOODS at 20 cents per yard.

DRESS GOODS at 25 cents per yard.

DRESS GOODS at 30 cents per yard.

DRESS GOODS at 35 cents per yard.

FANCY SILKS! We offer about 5,000 yards at 35 cents per yard, (these are more or less soiled); original price \$1.50 and \$2.00 per yard.

JAPANESE SILKS! Reduced to 40 cents per yard.

WOOL SHAWLS, MANTLES and JACKETS, Marked very Cheap.

LADIES', BOYS' and GIRLS' FELT HATS, at Half Price.

BALSY WOOL GOODS, at less than Half Price.

LADIES' and CHILDREN'S WOOL and MERINO HOSE, Greatly reduced.

100 dozen CHILDREN'S WOOL and MERINO SOCKS, all Sizes, at less than Half Price.

Several thousand Yards of VARIOUS REMANENTS, Comprising: FLANNELS, CALICOES, PRINTS, MUSLINS, SILK GOODS and Other Useful GOODS, are Marked at Prices, which must effect immediate Sale.

In order to prevent disappointment, We beg to inform our Customers and the Public that this Extraordinary, and Unprecedented Sale must close on February 14th.

Return Passage Tickets available for 6 months are issued at a reduction of 20 per cent on regular rates.

For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 37, Queen's Road Central.

G. B. EMORY, Agent.

Hongkong, February 1, 1877.

TO LET.

TO LET.

NO. 3, PHILLIP TERRACE, ELGIN STREET, with Immediate Possession.

Apply to LANE, CRAWFORD & CO. Hongkong, February 7, 1877.

TO BE LET.

THE PREMISES No. 39, Queen's Road, at present in the occupation of the BORNEO COMPANY.

TURNER & CO. Hongkong, February 6, 1877.

TO LET.

HOUSE No. 14, Gough Street. Apply to J. J. DOS REMEDIOS & CO.

Hongkong, February 2, 1877.

TO LET.

HOUSE No. 7, Caine Road, lately occupied by Mr. PARKER.

House No. 10, Albany Road, at present occupied by the Rev. R. H. KIDD.

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & CO.

Hongkong, January 10, 1877.

TO BE LET.

THE Premises at present occupied by the International Ice Manufacturing Co., Limited.

For particulars, apply to

MEYER & CO.

Hongkong, December 12, 1876.

TO LET.

THE Upper Portion of Nos. 42 and 44, Queen's Road.

Apply to DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO.

Hongkong, November 17, 1876.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE.

CUTLER, PALMER & CO. Celebrated

Brands of WINES and SPIRITS.

Apply to SIEMSEN & CO.

Hongkong, June 22, 1876.

HONG LISTS.

Circular, large sheet.

THE AMENDED HONG LIST in English and Chinese, containing the Names of all the most important Companies, Institutions and Mercantile Houses in the Colony.

Price, 25 cents each; or \$2.50 per dozen.

At the "China Mail" Office.

TRADE OF ADVERTISING IN THE Chinese Mail.

THE CONSUL for FRANCE has the honour to inform those Persons who wish to take part in the intended Exhibition, that they will find at the Consulate all Information and Particulars they may require.

For the Consul,

G. BOULOUZE, Vice-Consul.

Hongkong, December 18, 1876.

THE CHINESE MAIL.

TRADE OF ADVERTISING IN THE Chinese Mail.

THE CONSUL for FRANCE has the honour to inform those Persons who wish to take part in the intended Exhibition, that they will find at the Consulate all Information and Particulars they may require.

For the Consul,

G. BOULOUZE, Vice-Consul.

Hongkong, December 18, 1876.

THE CHINESE MAIL.

TRADE OF ADVERTISING IN THE Chinese Mail.

THE CONSUL for FRANCE has the honour to inform those Persons who wish to take part in the intended Exhibition, that they will find at the Consulate all Information and Particulars they may require.

For the Consul,

G. BOULOUZE, Vice-Consul.

Hongkong, December 18, 1876.

THE CHINESE MAIL.

TRADE OF ADVERTISING IN THE Chinese Mail.

THE CONSUL for FRANCE has the honour to inform those Persons who wish to take part in the intended Exhibition, that they will find at the Consulate all Information and Particulars they may require.

For the Consul,

G. BOULOUZE, Vice-Consul.

Hongkong, December 18, 1876.

THE CHINESE MAIL.

TRADE OF ADVERTISING IN THE Chinese Mail.

THE CONSUL for FRANCE has the honour to inform those Persons who wish to take part in the intended Exhibition, that they will find at the Consulate all Information and Particulars they may require.

For the Consul,

G. BOULOUZE, Vice-Consul.

Hongkong, December 18, 1876.

THE CHINESE MAIL.

TRADE OF ADVERTISING IN THE Chinese Mail.

THE CONSUL for FRANCE has the honour to inform those Persons who wish to take part in the intended Exhibition, that they will find at the Consulate all Information and Particulars they may require.

For the Consul,

G. BOULOUZE